

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 4, 5, 14 and 15 as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject application, now read as follows:

1. (Previously presented) An output management method for an information processing apparatus, which can communicate with a first output apparatus having a copying function of printing based on a scanned document image, and a second output apparatus having a print function of printing image data transmitted from an external device in a predetermined format, and comprises a server function of managing output jobs in the first and second output apparatuses, comprising:

a first acquisition step of acquiring first output job information of a copy job to be executed by the first output apparatus before an occurrence of any obstacle that disturbs execution of a copy job;

a detection step of detecting the occurrence of any obstacle that disturbs execution of a copy job during execution of a copy job in the first output apparatus;

a substitution output step of controlling the second output apparatus to execute a substitution print process based on the first output job information upon detection of occurrence of the obstacle during execution of the copy job in the first output apparatus in the detection step; and

an updating step of reflecting the first output job information onto a second job output queue of the second output apparatus,

wherein the substitution output step includes a step of transmitting a job on the basis of the second job output queue updated in the updating step.

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the detection step includes a step of monitoring occurrence of an obstacle by monitoring based on the first output job information, and said method further comprises a notification step of notifying an external client computer of a monitoring result based on monitoring in the detection step.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1 [[3]], wherein the first output job information contains first order information, and the update step includes a step of updating the second job output queue on the basis of the first order information, and second order information of a job in the second output apparatus.

5. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1 [[3]], further comprising a suppression step of suppressing registration of the copy job acquired in the first acquisition step in a job output queue on the basis of the first output job information, and wherein the update step includes a step of executing a registration process of the copy job to the second job output queue based on the first output job information in the detection step.

6. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the first output job information contains management information used to manage the output job and/or image data to be output.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the substitution output step includes a conversion step of converting a format of image data based on the first output job information into a format that the second output apparatus can process.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising a substitution determination step of determining in accordance with setup information set by a user in advance whether or not a substitution process is to be executed for each output job type.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 8, wherein the setup information contains information of an obstacle that may occur for each output job type, and execution/non-execution of a substitution process upon occurrence of that obstacle.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously presented) An information processing apparatus, which can communicate with a first output apparatus having a copying function of printing based on a scanned document image, and a second output apparatus having a print function of printing image data transmitted from an external device in a predetermined format, and comprises a server function of managing output jobs in the first and second output apparatuses, comprising:

first acquisition means for acquiring first output job information of a copy job to be executed by the first output apparatus before an occurrence of any obstacle that disturbs execution of a copy job;

detection means for detecting occurrence of any obstacle that disturbs execution of a copy job during execution of a copy job in the first output apparatus;

substitution output means for controlling the second output apparatus to execute a substitution print process based on the first output job information upon detection of occurrence of the obstacle during execution of the copy job in the first output apparatus by said detection means; and

updating means for reflecting the first output job information onto a second job output queue of the second output apparatus,

wherein the substitution output means includes transmitting means for transmitting a job on the basis of the second job output queue updated by the updating means.

12. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said detection means monitors occurrence of an obstacle by monitoring based on the first output job information, and said apparatus further comprises notification means for notifying an external client computer of a monitoring result based on monitoring of said detection means.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 11 [[13]], wherein the first output job information contains first order information, and said update means updates the second job output queue on the basis of the first order information, and second order information of a job in the second output apparatus.

15. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 11 [[13]], further comprising suppression means for suppressing registration of the copy job acquired by said first acquisition means in a job output queue on the basis of the first output job information, and wherein said update means executes a registration process of the copy job to the second job output queue based on the first output job information by said detection means.

16. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the first output job information contains management information used to manage the output job and/or image data to be output.

17. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said substitution output means converts a format of image data based on the first output job information into a format that the second output apparatus can process.

18. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 11, further comprising determination means for determining in accordance with setup information set by a user in advance whether or not a substitution process is to be executed for each output job type, and wherein the substitution process of said substitution output means is executed based on a determination result of said determination means.

19. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 18, wherein the setup information contains information of an obstacle that may occur for each output job type, and execution/non-execution of a substitution process upon occurrence of that obstacle.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously presented) A computer-executable program stored on a computer-readable storage medium which comprises program codes for making an information processing apparatus, which can communicate with a first output apparatus having a copying function of printing based on a scanned document image, and a second output apparatus having a print function of printing image data transmitted from an external device in a predetermined format, and comprises a server function of managing output jobs in the first and second output apparatuses, execute:

a first acquisition step of acquiring first output job information of a copy job to be executed by the first output apparatus before an occurrence of any obstacle that disturbs execution of a copy job;

a detection step of detecting occurrence of any obstacle that disturbs execution of a copy job during execution of a copy job in the first output apparatus;

a substitution output step of controlling the second output apparatus to execute a substitution print process based on the first output job information upon detection of occurrence of the obstacle during execution of the copy job in the first output apparatus in the detection step; and

an updating step of reflecting the first output job information onto a second job output queue of the second output apparatus,

wherein the substitution output step includes a step of transmitting a job on the basis of the second job output queue updated in the updating step.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Previously presented) A computer-readable storage medium storing a computer-executable program which comprises program codes for making an information processing apparatus, which can communicate with a first output apparatus having a copying function of printing based on a scanned document image, and a second output apparatus having a print function of printing image data transmitted from an external device in a predetermined format, and comprises a server function of managing output jobs in the first and second output apparatuses, execute:

a first acquisition step of acquiring first output job information of a copy job to be executed by the first output apparatus before an occurrence of any obstacle that disturbs execution of a copy job;

a detection step of detecting occurrence of any obstacle that disturbs execution of a copy job during execution of a copy job in the first output apparatus;

a substitution output step of controlling the second output apparatus to execute a substitution print process based on the first output job information upon detection of occurrence of the obstacle during execution of the copy job in the first output apparatus in the detection step; and

an updating step of reflecting the first output job information onto a second job output queue of the second output apparatus,

wherein the substitution output step includes a step of transmitting a job on the basis of the second job output queue updated in the updating step.

24. (Canceled)